Facilities at Dabolim Airport

1389. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what slots are currently available for civilian flights landing and taking off from Dabolim Airport and out of these, which slots are available throughout the week;

(b) the number of passengers landing and taking off each year from Dabolim during the last three years;

(c) whether the airport facilities at Dabolim are considered adequate for current and potential enhanced load of passengers and cargo; and

(d) whether Government are considering the possibility of permitting international flights (other than charter flights) to land at the Dabolim Airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Slots currently available for civil flights at Dabolim airport are from 0630 to 0830 IST on Monday and Tuesday, from 1300 to 1830 IST on Wednesday and Thursday and from 0630 to 1330 IST on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Civil Air Terminal under AAI including parking and passenger facilitation is available from 0630 to 1830 IST daily, however, from Monday to Thursday between 0830 to 1300 no civil aircraft can land or take off due to restrictions imposed by the Indian Navy.

(b) Number of passengers embarking and disembarking at Dabolim Airport (including international and domestic) for the past three years *i.e.*, 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003 is 876723, 790626 and 839918 respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As a part of Prime Minister's ASEAN and Sri Lanka initiatives, it has been decided that designated airlines of 10 ASEAN countries and Sri Lanka will be allowed to operate unlimited number of flights to 18 tourist destinations in India including Goa.